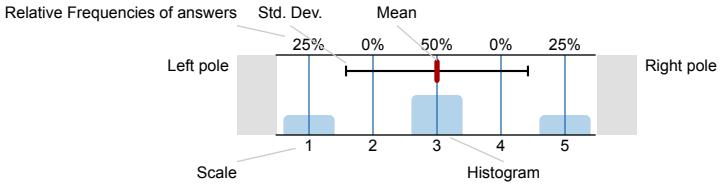
Matthew Furlong

Intro to Economic Geog
Semester = Spring 2026
GEOG-161
38009-220261

No. of responses = 25
No. of students enrolled = 54

Legend

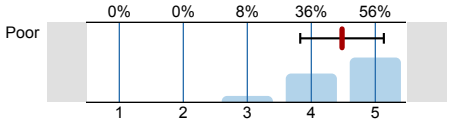
Question text



n=No. of responses
av.=Mean
dev.=Std. Dev.
ab.=Abstention

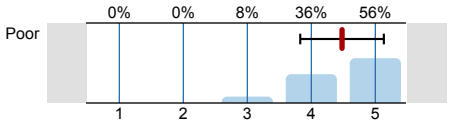
1. INSTRUCTOR EVALUATIONS

1.1) Rate the instructor's overall teaching effectiveness.



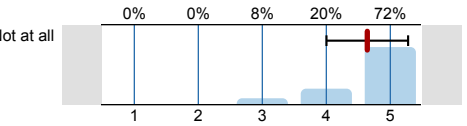
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1.2) Rate the overall quality of the course.



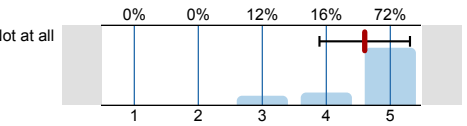
n=25
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dev.=0.65

1.3) How well did the course assignments/quizzes/ examinations reflect the content and emphasis of the course?



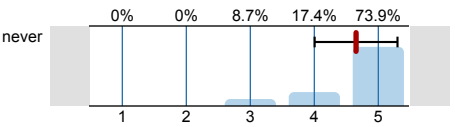
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av.=4.64
dev.=0.64

1.4) Was the instructor's use of technology (e.g., email, Blackboard, Powerpoint, other electronic and /or web-based methods) effective?



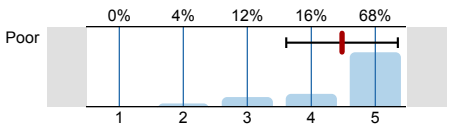
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av.=4.6
dev.=0.71

1.5) The instructor was sensitive to the cultural/human diversity, diverse worldviews, learning disability, and/ or physical disability of the students.



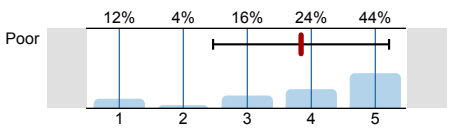
n=23
av.=4.65
dev.=0.65
ab.=2

1.6) How would you rate the physical environment in which you take **this class**, especially the classroom facilities, including your ability to see, hear, concentrate, and participate?



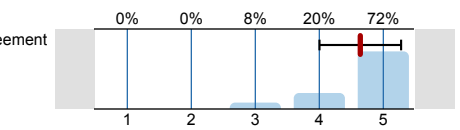
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av.=4.48
dev.=0.87

1.7) You found the course intellectually challenging and stimulating.



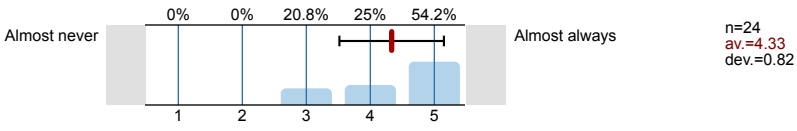
n=25
av.=3.84
dev.=1.37

1.8) Instructor was enthusiastic about conducting the course.



n=25
av.=4.64
dev.=0.64

1.9) Examinations/graded materials were returned on a timely basis.



2. OPEN ENDED QUESTIONS

2.1) Please comment on specific characteristics of the course that were most beneficial to you:

- Course was accommodating
- Engaging Material, Related to Education majors
- Excellent teacher, and very understanding which help me have a better grade.
- Favorite class this semester!
- I enjoyed taking geography 161 with professor furlong. His lectures including slides were always very clear. His word choices and the way he broke down course material including key concepts were presented in a way that were easy to understand. He was always very enthusiastic when it came to lecturing and always had a smile on his face. Being in his classroom I felt very comfortable. He also has very flexible office hours and availability which I found very helpful. I also liked how we had exam practice questions in class to help us feel less nervous that was very helpful.
- I got a wide range of perspective's and gained knowledge of what economics is and learned both the positives and the negatives aspects that shapes economics globally.
- I liked how the slides were always relevant to the quizzes and homework
- I really enjoyed the 'Biography of a Commodity' Assignment because I enjoyed researching the lifecycle of my Ozark Trail sleeping bag that I own. This coursework assignment helped me discern and analyze the original beginnings of how the items was created from start to finish; what countries created the cotton for my sleeping bag and I research the countries that my Ozark Trail sleeping bag was shipped from. Everything about this assignment was interesting to me.
- I really enjoyed your help with studying leading up to exams and I thought your lecture style worked great for this course information!
- I think the discussion classes were helpful if we didn’t understand the lecture.
- I think the way that the professor explains things and the way he takes time to really define key words was most helpful. Also the many screens and monoters in our arc lecture hall is so helpful ti look and take notes on the slides.
- I would say that the most beneficial characteristic of the course was the PowerPoint slides, which were very helpful and made it easier to understand the lecture. I would also say that the office hours were really beneficial and help me alot.
- Material was well explained and tied back to current events
- Professor Furlong is very passionate about what he teaches and made class engaging. Having a professor who enjoys what they teach really helped to motivate me.
- That we get to sit in groups. I would ask questions if i didnt understand something.
- The TA was a great tool on this course. They would add a lot of their knowledge especially during discussions.
- The office hours.
- The pop quizzes and writing assignments.
- The videos
- When assignments were given they were given with time and not to difficult
- n/a

2.2) Please comment on specific aspects of the course that need improvement:

- Area of improvement: Technical difficulties and I believe the course needs a text book in print. I want a text book I can read when the internet is down and I can read outside on a beautiful sunny day. I don't care for screen overload (prolonged exposure to computer screens it could interfere with my sleep).
- I can't think of anything that should be improved. I feel like our professor is already doing a great job making sure we get the proper resources needed to do well in class.

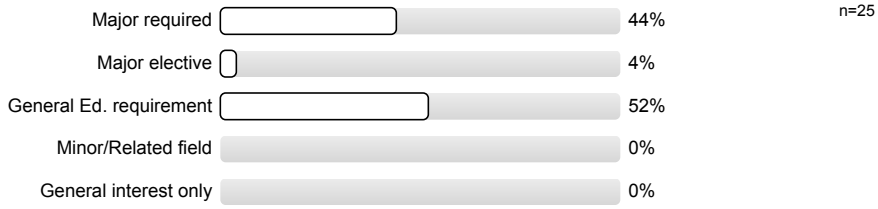
- I know its a lecture but its content heavy and I wish we could've interacted with our classmates more to understand the material. Overall he was kind and passionate of the content.
- I think if the students interact in lecture more and maybe doing activities more together because it's cause we are all shy.
- I would ask for more engagement during lectures. Great topics but it would sometimes be a snoozer. Maybe having more of an ice breaker the first two weeks to get students feel more comfortable to interact.
- In my opinion this course didn't need any improvement as it was a good level of challenging (not too hard but not easy) and a lot of methods of teaching to help the class.
- More engaging with students, sometimes the lecture was boring and made me not want to pay attention
- N/A
- No improvements.
- None
- Not stimulating enough; can't focus
- Nothing in particular
- The discussion sections.
- The discussion sessions Ta needed to prioritize the needed time for quizzes.
- The slides were pretty wordy most of the time which sometimes made it harder to follow along, but other than that no complaints!
- There was times where we had technical problems due to the classroom we were in. But that didn't stop the professor from lecturing and presenting the material with us to his best ability and he did amazing working about those issues which was great.
- Where there doesn't need to be a lecture and discussion, it could just be all in one, and for the discussion section, we aren't graded if we participate, but for showing up, completing assignments on time, quizzes, etc.
- getting the class engaged rather than talking the whole class period.
- n/a

2.3) If necessary, clarify any of your previous responses or make additional comments:

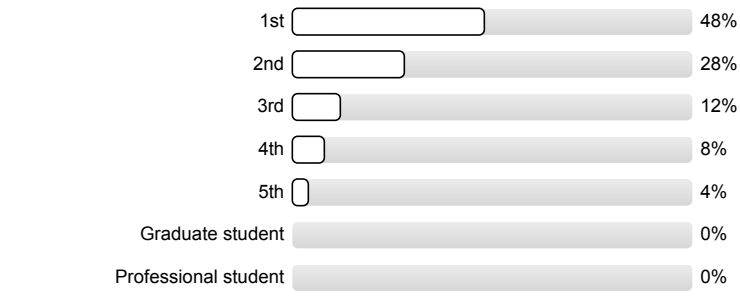
- Dr. Furlong is a very good lecturer. However, I want to have a text book in print to use for the course and especially with the exams. If a ecological geography exam is conceptualized, the exam should be open note and open text book during the exam.
- I wasn't sure if sensitive was a good thing or bad thing
- N/A
- N/a
- No, I enjoyed learning all the material throughout the semester.
- Overall the way professor furlong lectured his class was great. He made the material very engaging. He is an amazing professor!
- n/a (3 Counts)

3. STUDENT CHARACTERISTICS

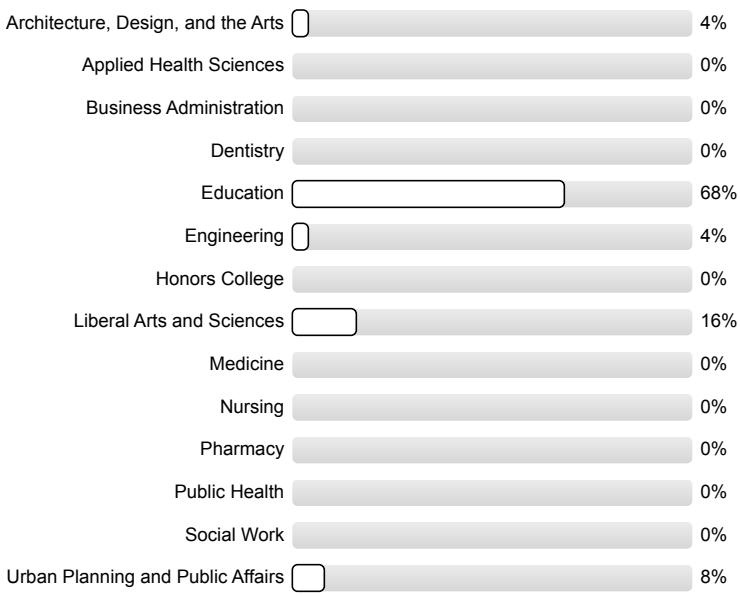
3.1) Primary Reason for taking the course



3.2) Year in school.



3.3) Major College



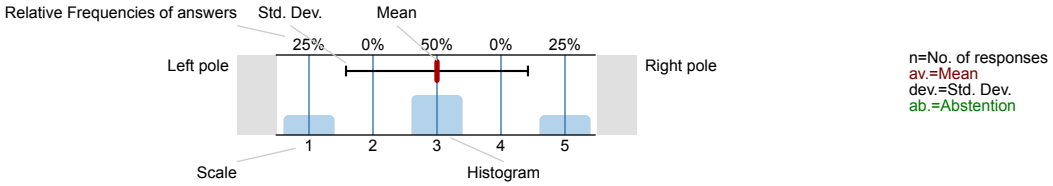
Matthew Furlong

Hon Core World Cul / US Soc
Semester = Spring 2026
HON-129
26290-220261

No. of responses = 19
No. of students enrolled = 23

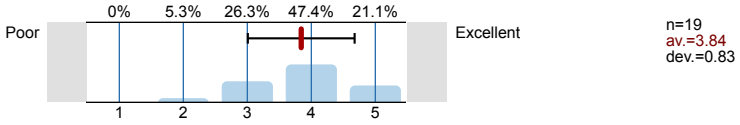
Legend

Question text



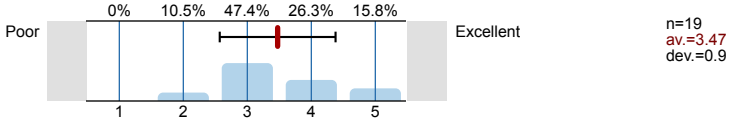
1. INSTRUCTOR EVALUATIONS

1.1) Rate the instructor's overall teaching effectiveness.



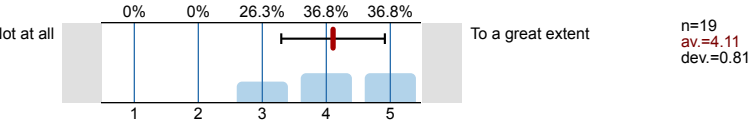
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dev.=0.83

1.2) Rate the overall quality of the course.



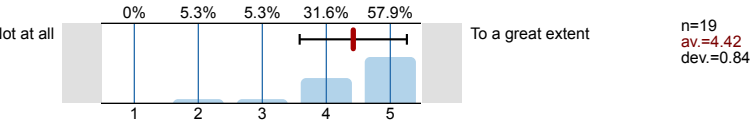
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1.3) How well did the course assignments/quizzes/ examinations reflect the content and emphasis of the course?



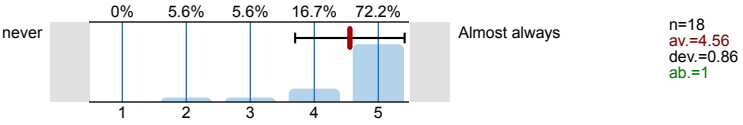
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1.4) Was the instructor's use of technology (e.g., email, Blackboard, Powerpoint, other electronic and/or web-based methods) effective?



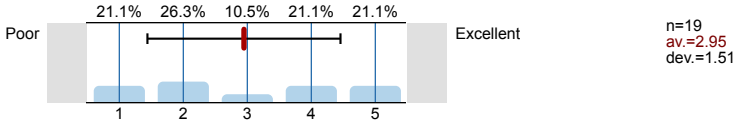
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1.5) The instructor was sensitive to the cultural/human diversity, diverse worldviews, learning disability, and/ or physical disability of the students.



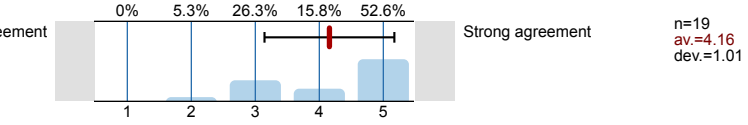
n=18
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1.6) How would you rate the physical environment in which you take **this class**, especially the classroom facilities, including your ability to see, hear, concentrate, and participate?



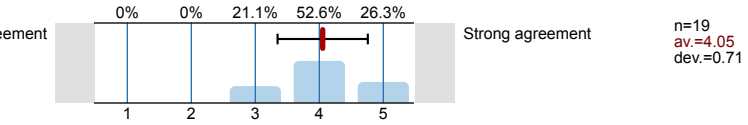
n=19
av.=2.95
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1.7) The course broadened your understanding of the subject matter.



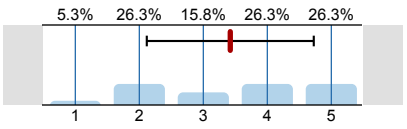
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1.8) The course challenged you to think more deeply about the subject matter.



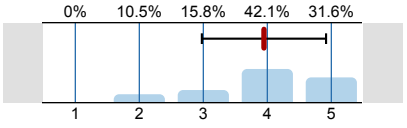
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dev.=0.71

1.9) Your interest in the subject has increased as a result of this course.



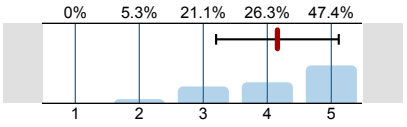
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av.=3.42
dev.=1.3

1.10) The instructor offered engaging class sessions, either as lectures, group activities, or exercises, or as a combination of these.



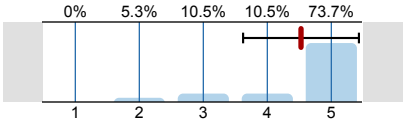
n=19
av.=3.95
dev.=0.97

1.11) The instructor's syllabus and other materials provided clear instructions and expectations.



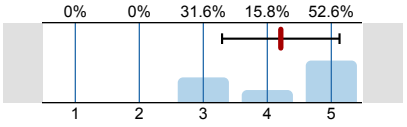
n=19
av.=4.16
dev.=0.96

1.12) The instructor encouraged students to ask questions and share their ideas with the class.



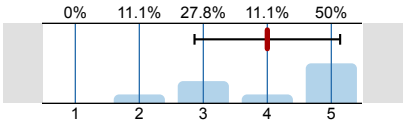
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av.=4.53
dev.=0.9

1.13) The instructor encouraged students to talk critically about challenging ideas and diverse perspectives presented in the course.



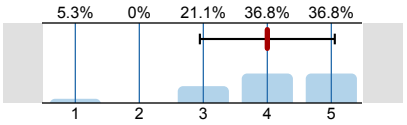
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dev.=0.92

1.14) The instructor encouraged students to seek help or guidance, and provided adequate opportunities to do so, in or outside class.



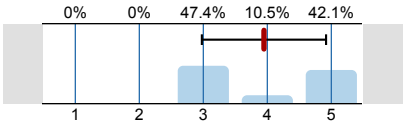
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av.=4
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ab.=1

1.15) The instructor presented a variety of perspectives on topics by showing how they vary within different contexts or change over time.



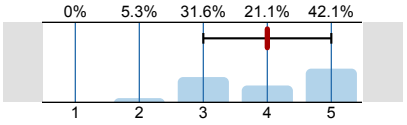
n=19
av.=4
dev.=1.05

1.16) The instructor gave relevant assignments with clearly presented expectations.



n=19
av.=3.95
dev.=0.97

1.17) The instructor provided timely and valuable feedback on graded material.



n=19
av.=4
dev.=1

2. OPEN ENDED QUESTIONS

2.1) Please comment on specific characteristics of the course that were most beneficial to you:

- Film assignments, watching videos in class
- I appreciate the passion that Prof. Furlong has for this subject and I was able to learn a lot better when he taught lectures. I liked his film assignments and the Oral History Interview is a great idea for a final project as opposed to a final exam.
- I liked the discussion posts and and the film reflection assignments
- I thought it was interesting to an extent.
- I thought the films, slides, and some writing assignments were beneficial in providing a variety of detailed information with a variety of points of views.
- Learning how to talk in an interview.
- Love the oral history project, and some of the lectures were pretty interesting, especially about international informal housing.

- Professor Furlong was super kind and understanding when it came to anything. Whatever issues came up, he would always listen and do his best with accommodations. He is passionate about what he teaches, and I can tell that he wants to deliver that kind of passion to his students as well!
- The comments on each film reflection were very useful to help me improve as a writer. The interview helped with my public speaking, and my knowledge on interviewing.
- The slide lectures are very helpful and the videos/reading in class helped me get set up for discussions and course content.
- The syllabus and rubric for assignments were always clear and easy to understand.
- The syllabus, lecture content, readings, assignments, and deadlines were clear in class.
- it was great
- the detailed syllabus

2.2) Please comment on specific ways the course might improve:

- Either add more regular quizzes or remove the quizzes entirely. Having only two quizzes has the aspect of tanking your grade if you fail just one of them, and I feel like the class is more than just a single quiz. Having multiple short quizzes would allow for a more average score rather than a single tanked quiz. I also hated the lecture classroom, the air conditioning was terrible and it was much too hot that sometimes I couldn't focus in class.
- Explaining more about the main graded assignments and focusing on better communication skills can feel a little strange, but overall, it's nice.
- Give more historical context
- He is just very awkward and almost scared to talk to each student. He will sometimes try to ask questions but will quickly give up and move on. The course is extremely lecture heavy and very boring. The classroom was miserably hot and always cramped.
- I haven't been a fan of the school's transition to Canvas (not least because I don't like it) but having a transition period where courses can choose to use Canvas or use Blackboard as the LMS is possibly the worst method, and this class is a prime example of why. All of my courses are on Blackboard except for this, and the two disjoined LMSes made it so that the best solution for me determining when things were due was to change my desktop background to when assignments for all of my classes are typically due. I'd like to see this class use Blackboard or at least find what other courses in other colleges are using and use the more common LMS for the last semester in which both are available.

  I would also like to see more economics-focused content. Multiple parts of the reading assert economic ideas without proving or explaining why (or at the very least citing anything), such as rent control being a good thing.
- I think instead of few big assignments, smaller simple assignments about the lectures so we can better understand the lecture. A lot of the time we would sit in the lecture but not gain anything from it.
- I think the course needs just more consistent content. I felt that the course wasn't as straightforward with its goal and the project didn't align that much either. I think it needs help on its purpose and also I wish there were more assignment since it was very difficult to get a good score.
- I think we should have more discussion time and have more time to prepare for these discussions
- Lectures are quite boring and there are way too many readings assigned through the weeks.
- Making quizzes worth less would help because one bad quiz grade (out of two total quizzes) tanks your grade despite satisfactory performance on every other grade in the grade book (discussions, film reflections, oral history project)
- More engaging lectures, proper AC/heating in the room
- Rework the Brazil topic by changing or removing film reflection 1. Add a broad schedule of where we should be on the interview. Such as week 1-8 contacting/finding interviewee. Make it seem shorter so students might not get stuck not performing an interview, but when the deadline comes extend the due date. Kind of how you did, but make it happen sooner.
- Some assignments like the land mapping assignment and the discussion posts felt like superficial work which wasn't very useful in understanding the information and was instead just time consuming.
- n/a
- the classroom in adam's hall, was very very hot everyday, even in the winter,

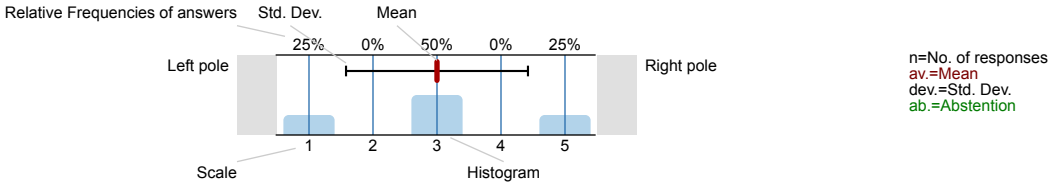
Matthew Furlong

Intro to Economic Geog
Semester = Fall 2024
GEOG-161
38189-220248

No. of responses = 54
No. of students enrolled = 135

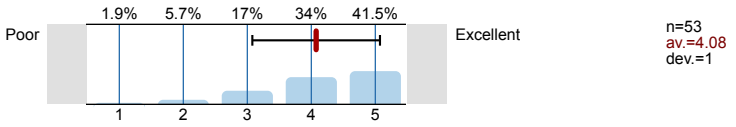
Legend

Question text



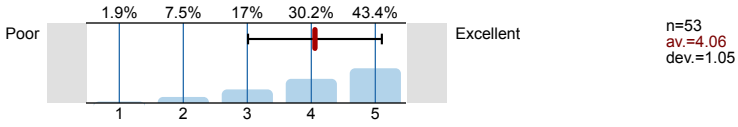
1. INSTRUCTOR EVALUATIONS

1.1) Rate the instructor's overall teaching effectiveness.



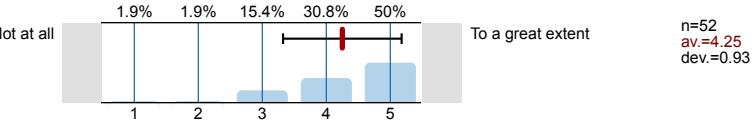
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1.2) Rate the overall quality of the course.



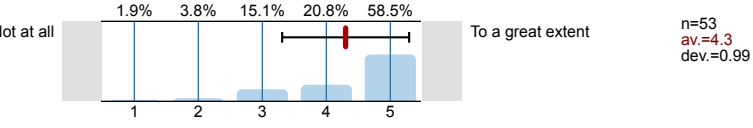
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1.3) How well did the course assignments/quizzes/ examinations reflect the content and emphasis of the course?



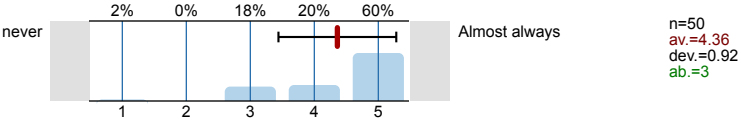
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1.4) Was the instructor's use of technology (e.g., email, Blackboard, Powerpoint, other electronic and /or web-based methods) effective?



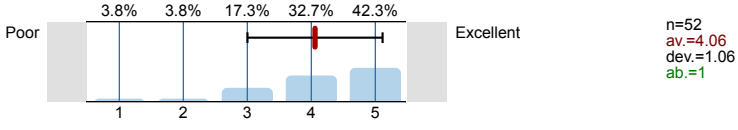
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1.5) The instructor was sensitive to the cultural/human diversity, diverse worldviews, learning disability, and/ or physical disability of the students.



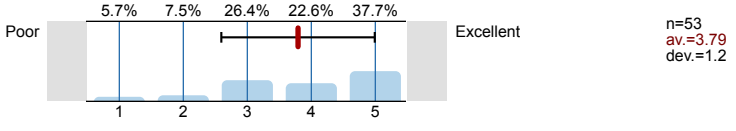
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ab.=3

1.6) How would you rate the physical environment in which you take **this class**, especially the classroom facilities, including your ability to see, hear, concentrate, and participate?



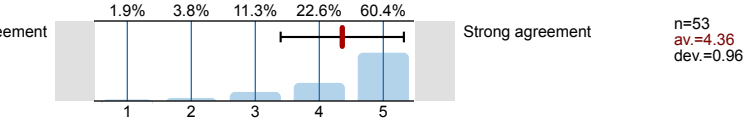
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dev.=1.06
ab.=1

1.7) You found the course intellectually challenging and stimulating.



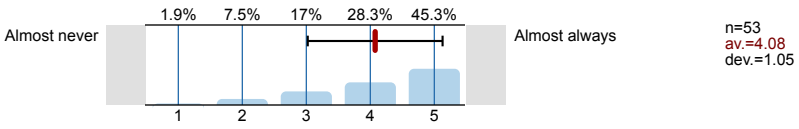
n=53
av.=3.79
dev.=1.2

1.8) Instructor was enthusiastic about conducting the course.



n=53
av.=4.36
dev.=0.96

1.9) Examinations/graded materials were returned on a timely basis.



2. OPEN ENDED QUESTIONS

2.1) Please comment on specific characteristics of the course that were most beneficial to you:

- Access to slides
- Being able to help students to understand the meaning of geography, which the reading helps a lot to understand how it changes over time.
- Being able to learn more about topics that I would have never known if I hadn't taken this class
- For me, it was extremely informative, on how labor is produced in different places and I was able to see the way the United States benefits from different states.
- Furlong is a great professor whose greatest flaws come from the fact that he isn't yet used to teaching a class. While this has led him to being awkward during lectures, it's also quite endearing. The reason why I'm not putting this aspect of Furlong's teaching in the "needs improvement" box is that he has already improved greatly over this last semester, with there being a noticeable difference in his lecturing ability between Week 1 and Week 15.
- Going over quiz questions in discussions.
- Good job
- He gave us the slides that we took notes on for the class, and I liked that a lot because I could see exactly what I took notes on.
- I appreciated the professor posting the PowerPoint at the end of the week and reviewing what was going to be on the exam with us!
- I don't like this course
- I enjoyed the extensive explanations during lecture. I also enjoyed having time to answer questions in class, so that we could understand better.
- I liked his enthusiasm about the course he seems very passionate about what he teaches
- I liked listening to the lectures because it helped me to better understand the concepts and topics. It was helpful to have access to the the PowerPoints.
- I think some assignment had me interested since they had to do with building developments.
- I think we talk about different groups of people I was able to get an understanding of what they have to go through on a day to day basis
- It gives greater insight to topics I witness in the city of Chicago, as well as a few basic topics pertinent to my major.
- Learning about how the different economic changes affect our environment and the people around us that we might have not noticed.
- Lectures for the quiz and assignments.
- Loved learning about how economic geography can affect more than just the general world. Opened up my mind how complex this system is.
- None
- PowerPoint slides are posted and the classroom polls helps with engagement.
- Professor Furlong's lectures were great at leading students into discussions allowing for a detailed understanding of the material. His lecture slides were also well organized by giving key topics that will be present in the material allowing for easier review and navigation through the lecture.
- Speaking about controversial topics and how they are interconnected to our everyday lives and often overlooked.
- The assignments were the most helpful and engaging in my opinion. The assignments correlated well with the topic of that week and they had us go out and connect our personal lives and experiences to the assignment.
- The discussions were very active and essential for the class and taught a lot.
- The lectures and PowerPoints were very beneficial.

- The overall content of the course made me reflect on certain themes that I was not aware of.
- The professor shows good understanding and interest in the topics covered in lectures and helps keep interest through lectures. Many conversations throughout the lectures were interesting because of the style he has chosen to teach it. Classwork has always been very relative to topics spoken about in lectures.
- The professor was very knowledgeable on the material and very passionate about it, I believe through his speech I was able to understand his points well clear.
- This was a pretty great course, what I found beneficial was learning geography because I never learned about it before.
- Understand what is happening in the world.
- What was most beneficial to me was that we received, for the most part, all of our assignments graded in a timely matter. This allowed me to see what I did wrong and what I could improve on for the next assignment.
- everything was straightforward and easy to understand
- learning about how different aspects of things are connected to geo
- no

2.2) Please comment on specific aspects of the course that need improvement:

- Add more interactive aspects in class.
- All. Quizzes subjective. Grades subjective. Commentary irrelevant. Would be class example with in depth commentary on assignments and still recieve inadequate grades
- At some point I started missing lectures because I did not feel like they were helpful in my learning and they didn't really corelate well with the discussion. There were a few times where the lecture was about how to skim or write instead of actual content which I thought was irrelevant and wasted time. These things can be added as resources in blackboard instead. Again, the only time I felt like the course was intellectually stimulating was when I was completing my assignments and sometimes in discussion.
- I felt at times the class went fast, or everyone understood pretty quickly but me.
- I have no improvements to suggest.
- I think it was a pretty fine course the way it is
- I was constantly bored and found it so hard to concentrate. For a gen ed class, it required more work and engagement than my major related courses. The discussion sections were useless and the TA has an attitude problem "I'll wait"-The guy with glasses, multiple times. I understand it was because of our lack of engagement, but there were too many readings for a gen ed and the actual material is so difficult to absorb. I wanted him to actually discuss the topics of the week because I felt like the actual lectures were a waste of time more often than not.
- I would say getting the class more involved but I think the pacing of the course was very good overall
- I would’ve liked to have access to the PowerPoints earlier in the semester.
- Lectures are not really helpful to complete assignments and/or exams. Slides were used a lot, yet it felt like not much effort was put into doing them.
- Less lengthy readings as some students and even TA’s were in agreement.
- More assignments and shorter readings to understand.
- N/A
- NONE
- No improvement, the course is good.
- Not right now
- Overall, the course feels slow. It is a low-level course, yes, but it moves at a pace that makes it feel like a basic course. Readings are relevant and some are interesting, but there are many which you simply do not need to read to understand the concepts presented.
- Professor used overly academic language to explain the simplest ideas and was overall just very boring to listen to
- Rubrics for grading are confusing. We are told to include one thing but in the rubric it is not included

- Some of the answers for the tests were either worded in confusing ways or depended on definitions which were slightly different than those given in class. Maybe I'm just frustrated that I can't guess the answers based on test structure, but I'm going to complain about it regardless.

  Something else I noticed while reading a lecture transcript was that Furlong ends almost every sentence by asking/stating "right." This isn't a real issue; it just became kind of funny once I noticed it.

- Some parts felt irrelevant
- Something that needed improvement for the course would be the instructions for specific assignments. For the podcast assignment, something needed to be added to the rubric that the Professor and TA would be looking for in our podcast, but because it wasn't explicitly stated, many students didn't do it. We were only told by our TA that we needed to directly discuss course concepts in our podcast a week after the assignment had been due. However, the assignment instructions only said that students had to talk about and interview someone about how COVID-19 changed a space or place in their area. Also, the professor and TA said we were required to interview someone for this assignment, but in the assignment instructions, it's only listed as a suggestion to interview someone. So I would say they need to work on making their assignment instructions more clear.
- The amount of reading from academic texts is a lot.
- The color scheme of the presentations and the lighting of the room sometimes made it hard to read the slides.
- The course overall does not have any area needing significant improvement, but one thing to note would be the reading material. It does not feel as engaging as the podcasts/videos that would take place as its weekly introduction to the topics at hand
- Use time in lectures more wisely. I didn't think we needed a writing and reading lesson in this class.
- Warmer discussion section classroom. Not the courses fault, but the buildings fault: Adam's Hall.
- maybe responding to emails
- n\a
- no
- none
- none.
- too cramped in class, really small lecture hall which made everything uncomfortable

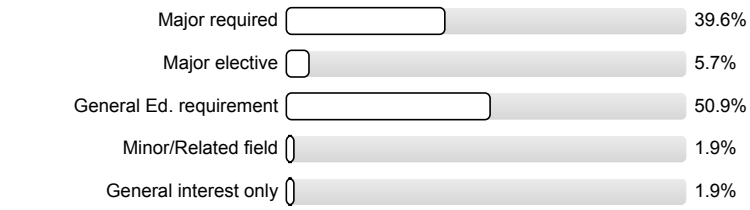
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2.3) If necessary, clarify any of your previous responses or make additional comments:

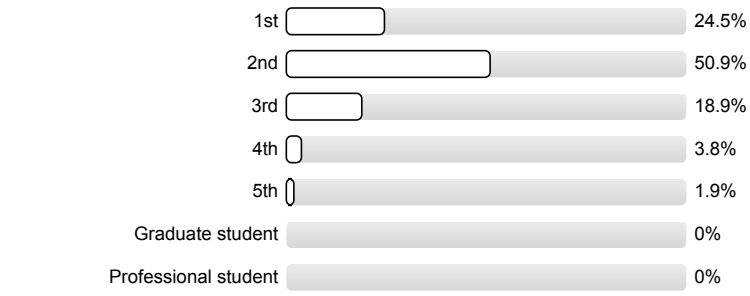
- All very subjuctive
- Dont have any
- I appreciate getting to have Professor Furlong, and I wish him the best next semester! His class taught me about a topic I never knew about.
- It would've been better if the professor explored concepts and themes more directly and specifically in lecture. I'd say, less discussing about a particular example and more on how concepts apply to situations in general.
- N/A (3 Counts)
- None
- Professor Furlong helped address some issues we have with reading academic text and grammar mistakes in our writing assignments. He is thorough in his explanations of complex topics.
- Sorry if that sounded a little mean, but this class has been so draining all semester. The tests and exams are worded so funny sometimes and are less entertaining than the actual assignments.
- n/a
- no
- none

3. STUDENT CHARACTERISTICS

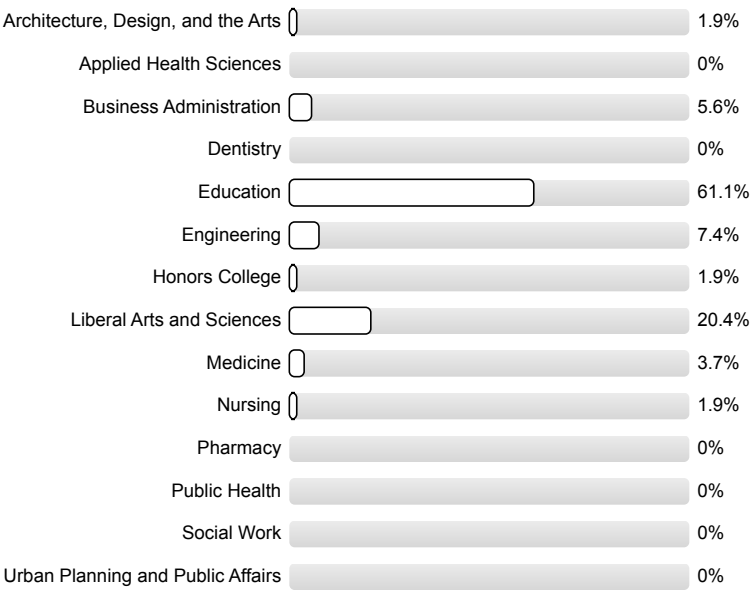
3.1) Primary Reason for taking the course



3.2) Year in school.



3.3) Major College



SOSC 16100 3 - Global Society I - Instructor(s): Matthew Furlong

Project Title: **College Course Feedback - Autumn 2022**

Number Enrolled: **19**
Number of Responses: **10**

Report Comments

Opinions expressed in these evaluations are those of students enrolled in the specific course and do not represent the University.

Creation Date: **Tuesday, January 10, 2023**

What are the most important things that you learned in this course? Please reflect on the knowledge and skills you gained.

Comments
The class went through a historical exploration of various global thinkers. We would engage with ideas of what it means to be "civilized", social norms, and what it means to form ideals in a nation–state.
Learned different perspectives of social theory.
what is social theory, how to think about social theory, how to write about social theory
I learned on the broad nature of societal organization and how the concepts of civilization/barbarism, colonialism, and culture varies on period and perspective.
I've learned the skills to effectively and confidently present an argument, in addition to how analyze works from different time periods.
what social theory is and how to develop our own arguments about social theory based on our readings
We did a lot of readings from different societies, and we worked on comparing the views of the authors with regard to a number of themes.
different forms of social and political organization, the basis for legitimate government

Describe how aspects of this course (lectures, discussions, labs, assignments, etc.) contributed to your learning.

Comments
There were discussions that would focus from small–group settings to larger discussions. There were also occasional group presentations that shifted our focus to more complex questions with the themes in the reading.
The readings helped me understand more about what social theory is and discussions helped me add to these thoughts.
discussions (mainly just the prof talking since no one in the class really volunteered much ://) helped us understand the readings more in depth
Discussions were the center of our learning, but at some points they felt like lectures.
In–class discussions helped clarify the main points of the writer's works.
having writing assignments to do did help me better understand the readings
The discussions in class were helpful to me because a lot of the time, I did not have the same takeaways from the readings as other people in the class
Lecture could often be slow but as long as students were engaged it could be very interesting. Professor Furlong was good at expanding upon peoples' comments and connecting them to other ideas to help unpack texts

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.30	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	70.00%	30.00%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.10	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	30.00%	30.00%	40.00%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	3.50	3.50	0.00%	10.00%	40.00%	40.00%	10.00%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	3.80	4.00	0.00%	10.00%	20.00%	50.00%	20.00%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.10	4.00	0.00%	10.00%	0.00%	60.00%	30.00%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.10	4.00	0.00%	10.00%	0.00%	60.00%	30.00%
I felt respected in this class.	4.70	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	30.00%	70.00%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.10	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	70.00%	20.00%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments
Having assignments due before our first class of the week made no sense to me. Class time enhanced my understanding of the work, and talking it through gave me a better chance to come up with good arguments.
i felt fine in this course and thought in general everything was alright, but the class was not structured well enough, and I especially didn't understand much of the feedback I received in writing assignments and how they were supposed to help me think about social theory

I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	0.00%	100.00%
Anyone interested in the topic	0.00%	100.00%

Thinking about your time in the class, what aspect of the instructor's teaching contributed most to your learning?

Comments
He was available for office hours and he broke down key concepts sometimes on the board during discussion. He was also devoted to letting everyone speak in class and I really liked that.
The discussions were very helpful in synthesizing the material on political theory that we read.
discussions
When he discussed the topics, I felt like I understood what was going on.
Professor Furlong would take time to explain the context in which each writer published. Additionally, he would encourage small group discussions to spark conversation on the works.
matthew was very open to feedback and speaking in office hours, I loved the fact that we had two required office hours in the quarter. he made office hours just a comfortable space to talk and share our thoughts on the course. he is very encouraging and passionate about the material, which I appreciated, and just an understanding person in general.
Professor Furlong was really good at posing interesting questions for our discussions as well as providing insight on the readings
Written feedback was often helpful on future assignments. Breaking down texts and how they connect to the central themes of the class during lectures was incredibly useful when completing writing assignments.

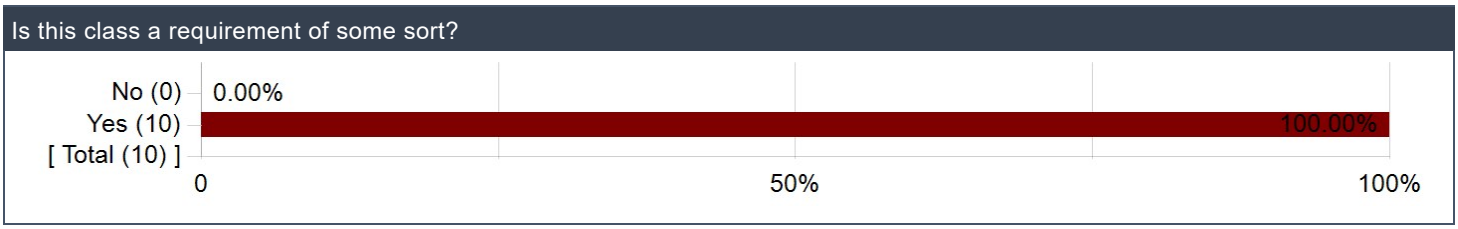
What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
Not really sure if this is the instructor's fault but no one really discussed in class. I don't know he could've fixed that. I think he was engaging and did a great job regardless.
Maybe give more clear guidelines on what constitutes a good essay.
Ask question that lead to conversations between classmates. It felt like we were only speaking for and to him at points. Our class was particularly quiet except one or two students, but I feel like he could have facilitated more discussion between students.
i did feel strongly that at times he was very passive, and could've structured the course a bit better. we had group projects that were assigned the very first day of class, but half the people forgot which group they were in or who their partners were and overall it felt very chaotic and unorganized. i would love it if he could just be more firm and clear about things. also, though i really appreciate his efforts to get us to talk during discussion, very few people spoke up during class discussion because we just didn't know what to talk about. the questions we were posed were very broad and difficult, sometimes we didn't even understand what question he was asking us to discuss. it felt like a steep learning curve and i wish he would pose more discussion questions that are more simple and easily approachable, and then build onto the larger questions instead of just asking difficult questions over and over again.
It would be helpful to have clearer standards for success on the writing assignments. The feedback given was helpful, but I could not tell if my writing was improving over the course of the quarter.
Could break down what specific terms that are important to the text mean especially in the context of how it connects to how we are analyzing the work.

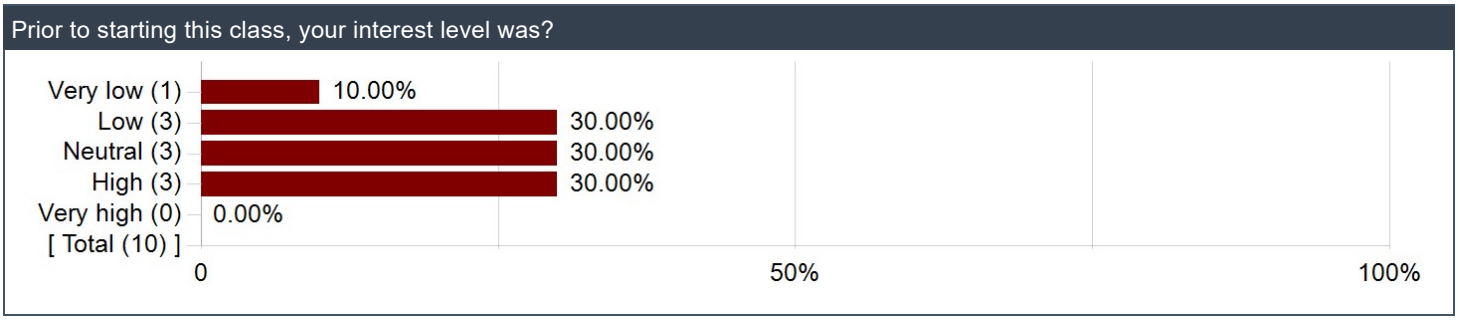
The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.10	4.00	0.00%	10.00%	10.00%	40.00%	40.00%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	4.22	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	70.00%	20.00%	10.00%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	3.80	4.00	10.00%	0.00%	20.00%	40.00%	30.00%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	4.10	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	50.00%	30.00%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.30	4.50	0.00%	10.00%	0.00%	40.00%	50.00%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.40	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	60.00%	40.00%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.70	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	10.00%	80.00%	0.00%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.60	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	20.00%	70.00%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.80	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	80.00%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.50	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	30.00%	60.00%	0.00%

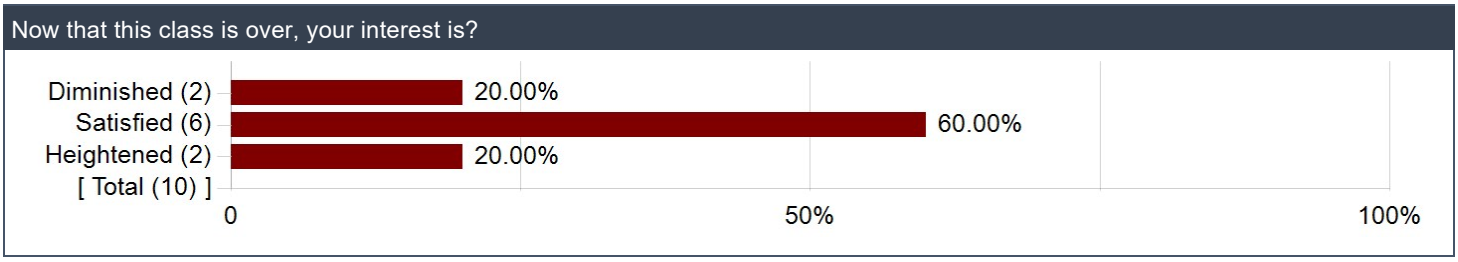
Is this class a requirement of some sort?



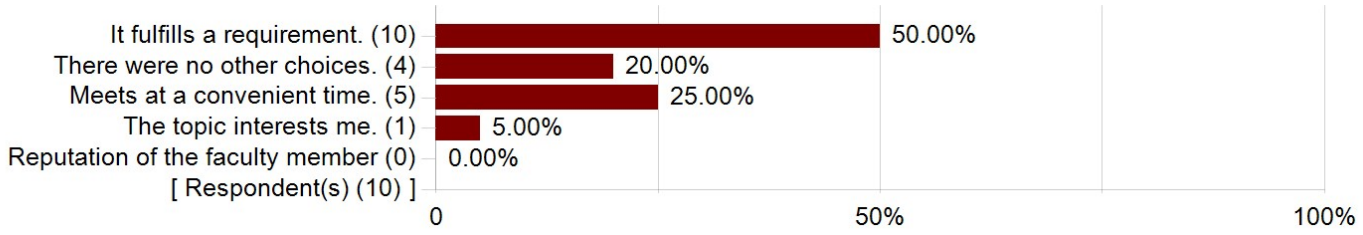
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



Now that this class is over, your interest is?

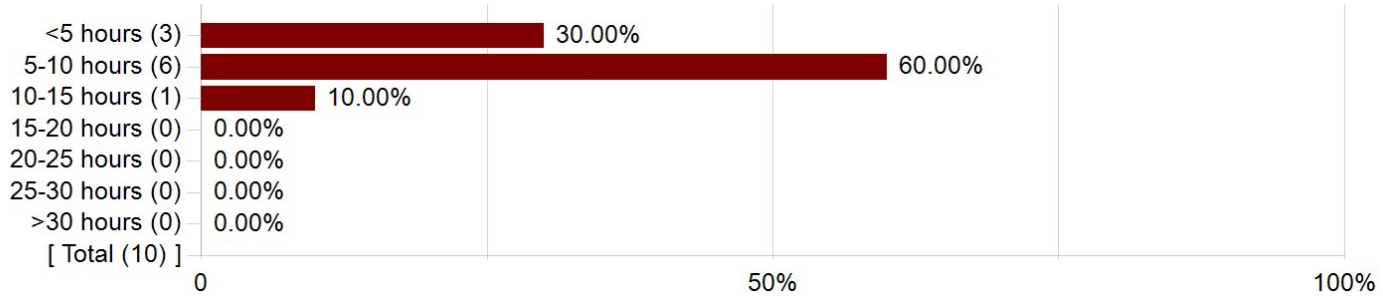


Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



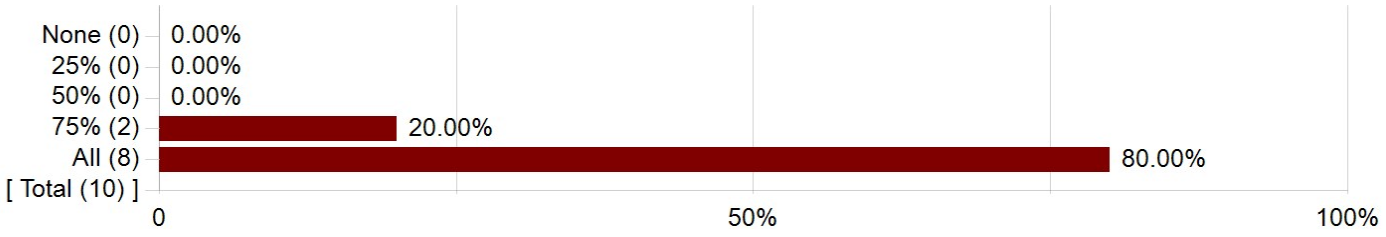
How many hours per week outside of attending required sessions did you spend on this course?

How many hours per week outside of attending required sessions did you spend on this course?



What proportion of classes did you attend?

What proportion of classes did you attend?



Please comment on the level of difficulty of the course relative to your background and experience.

Comments
It's not a difficult class — just read the material and take some notes. You'll do great!
No background in social theory is needed
The topics are easy to understand.
It was difficult to learn how to write for a social science class, as I didn't have experience with it before.
the level of difficulty was fine considering I had never read any of the texts we had to read in class, and had never taken a course on a relevant topic. I do think though that I was able to handle the final paper better just because I have a stronger writing background in general. I honestly don't think the past writing assignments would've helped me write the final paper otherwise.
I would say it was similar to hum but more difficult in terms of the readings

SOSC 16100 4 - Global Society I - Instructor(s): Matthew Furlong

Project Title: **College Course Feedback - Autumn 2022**

Number Enrolled: **17**
Number of Responses: **8**

Report Comments

Opinions expressed in these evaluations are those of students enrolled in the specific course and do not represent the University.

Creation Date: **Tuesday, January 10, 2023**

What are the most important things that you learned in this course? Please reflect on the knowledge and skills you gained.

Comments
How to read and discuss social theory.
As the title of the course suggests, I learned about social theory in several global contexts (although quite heavy on the European social theory).
It was very important to actually read the work by major social theorists such as Hobbes and Rousseau, to try to understand their reasoning and comparing and contrasting their thoughts helped my understanding of social theory.
I have not been able to wrap my head around what we learned.
I learned the most about forming and organising societies and how social norms are created.
I learned about different social theories.
In this course we learned about analyzing the writings of different social theorists over time through a normative, ontological, and dynamic lenses.

Describe how aspects of this course (lectures, discussions, labs, assignments, etc.) contributed to your learning.

Comments
Discussions!!! Often I found I didn't understand the reading until we picked it apart in discussions.
The discussions and assignments, in the form of weekly responses, enhanced my understanding of the readings, and I can get feedback on my interpretation from both the discussions and assignments in turn.
The books we read were important, but I left the class still quite confused about them.
I think some lectures were very helpful in expanding my learning, but others felt like they didn't build on my understanding of the readings.
Class discussion was enlightening and interesting.
The short writing assignments allowed me to productively analyze the texts
Assignments were helpful in my understanding of the readings because the weekly writing assignments gave me multiple opportunities to practice analyzing the text. Smaller group discussions were also helpful in my understanding.

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.38	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	12.50%	37.50%	50.00%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	3.63	4.00	0.00%	25.00%	0.00%	62.50%	12.50%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	2.88	3.00	0.00%	37.50%	37.50%	25.00%	0.00%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	3.38	3.50	0.00%	12.50%	37.50%	50.00%	0.00%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.38	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	62.50%	37.50%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	50.00%	25.00%
I felt respected in this class.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	3.63	4.00	0.00%	12.50%	12.50%	75.00%	0.00%

I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	0.00%	100.00%
Anyone interested in the topic	12.50%	87.50%

Thinking about your time in the class, what aspect of the instructor's teaching contributed most to your learning?

Comments
Leading discussions.
Professor Furlong led discussions well, and he is more than happy to meet with students outside of class to clarify things and help with writing assignments.
Back–and–forth discussions
The visuals on the chalkboard were helpful.
I think our group discussions contributed most to our learning.
He had very interesting outside texts or theories he would reference in class.
His incorporation of small groups into the larger discussion
Having guiding prompts for small group discussion were very helpful in further practicing how to analyze the texts that we analyzed in the shorter writing assignments.

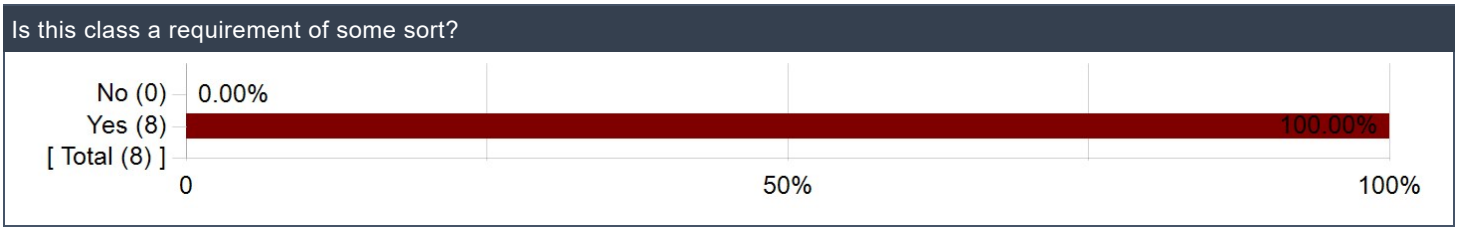
What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
Please if you are going to use big anthropology words, explain them for those of us who are dumb!
Professor Furlong could give clearer grading guidelines/expectations of what he is looking for out of written assignments.
Providing book summary to supplement the readings
Focusing on defining the types of social theory and having the structure of the class be based around them.
I think the discussions sometimes felt very long, so I feel like working in small groups could help.
I think trying to make ideas less abstract would have helped.
Facilitating discussions that have more of a through line and connection to previous discussions.
I had difficulty focusing during the longer lecture periods and whole class discussion, so having more activities where we can engage with the material in smaller groups would be nice.

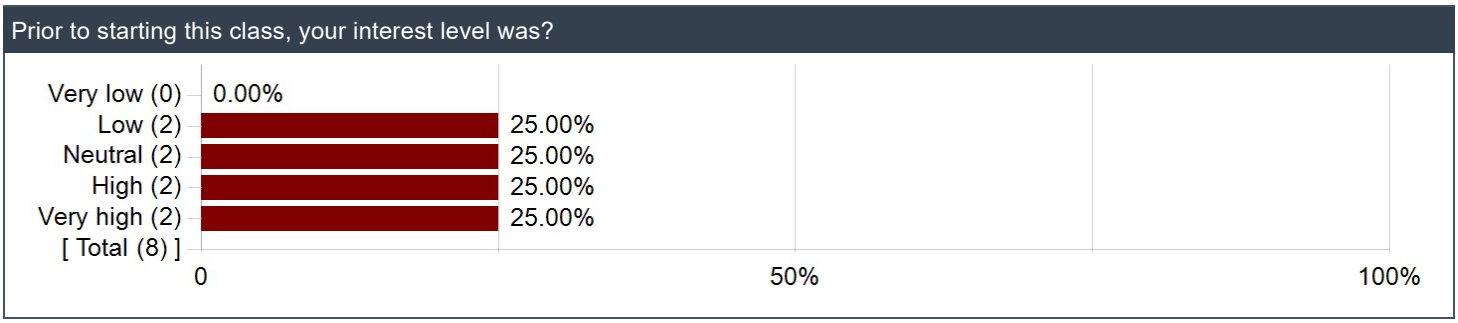
The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	3.71	4.00	0.00%	14.29%	14.29%	57.14%	14.29%	0.00%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	3.71	4.00	0.00%	14.29%	28.57%	28.57%	28.57%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	3.43	4.00	0.00%	14.29%	28.57%	57.14%	0.00%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	3.86	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	28.57%	57.14%	14.29%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	3.57	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	42.86%	57.14%	0.00%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.29	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	42.86%	42.86%	0.00%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	14.29%	0.00%	57.14%	28.57%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.71	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	28.57%	71.43%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	28.57%	42.86%	28.57%	0.00%

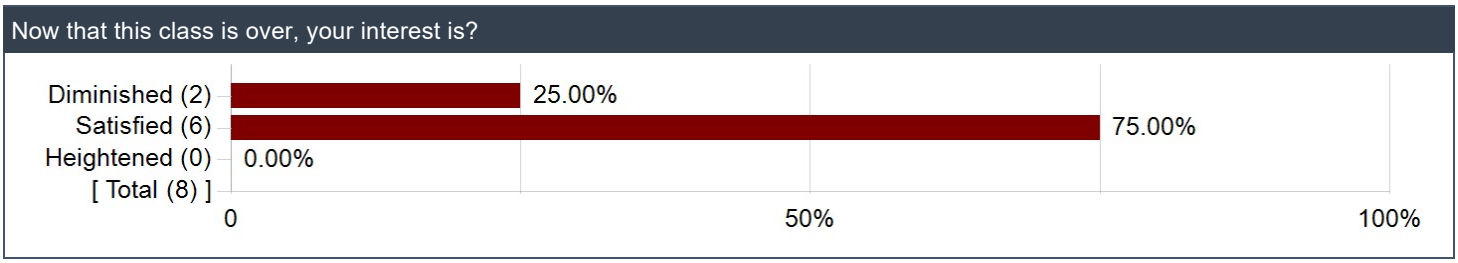
Is this class a requirement of some sort?



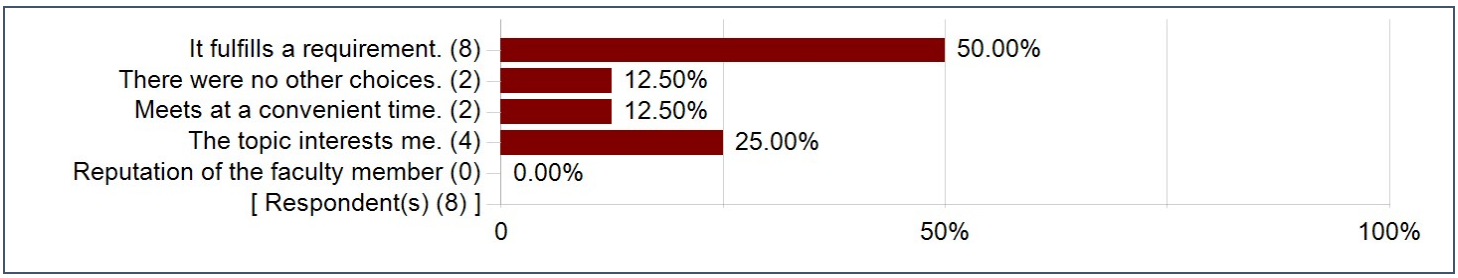
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



Now that this class is over, your interest is?

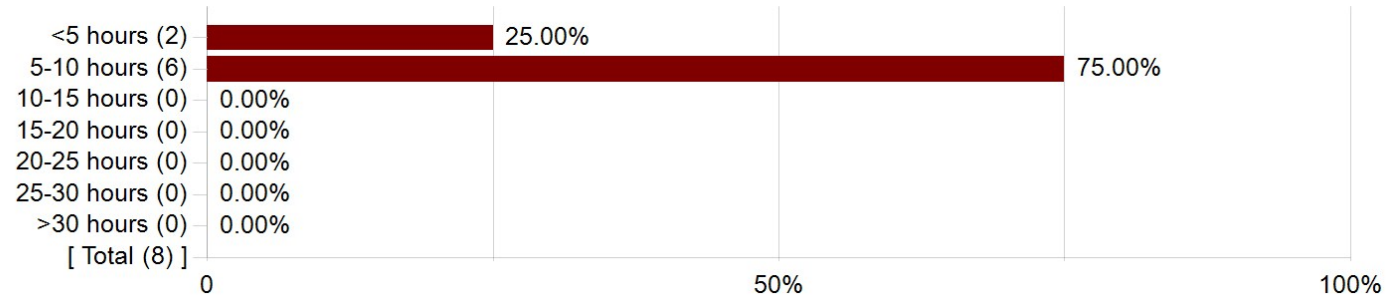


Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



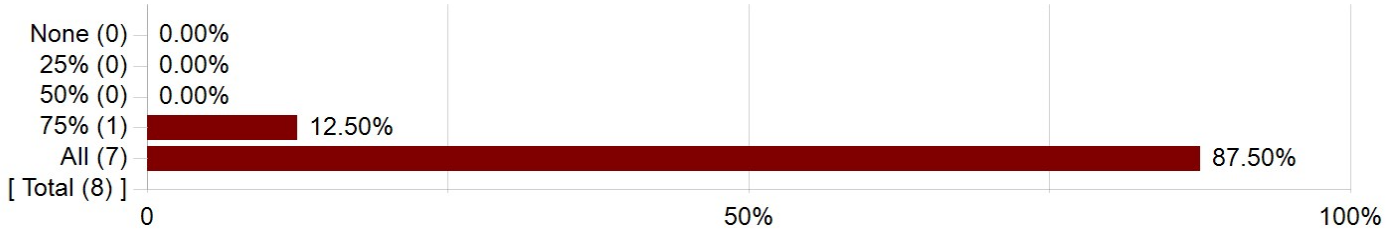
How many hours per week outside of attending required sessions did you spend on this course?

How many hours per week outside of attending required sessions did you spend on this course?



What proportion of classes did you attend?

What proportion of classes did you attend?



Please comment on the level of difficulty of the course relative to your background and experience.

Comments
I had no idea what to expect. I had no background in this type of class and didn't find it too difficult all quarter. However the final paper is not like anything I have written before so more difficult.
Somewhat difficult
The majority of my class was second years, so at first I felt a bit challenged by the writing. However, I was able to quickly catch up.
Not very difficult
I felt that topics discussed sometimes needed a background to fully engage with the content.

HMRT 28215 1, CRES 28215 1 - Anthropological Approaches to Human Rights - Instructor(s): Matthew Furlong

Project Title: **College Course Feedback - Winter 2023**

Number Enrolled: **11**
Number of Responses: **9**

Report Comments

Opinions expressed in these evaluations are those of students enrolled in the specific course and do not represent the University.

Creation Date: **Thursday, June 22, 2023**

What are the most important things that you learned in this course? Please reflect on the knowledge and skills you gained.

Comments
What an ethnography is.
To analyze ethnographic approaches to human rights
I learned how to read anthropological or ethnographic accounts of human rights violations, in addition to how to write my own account.
I learned about anthropology. I didn't know anything about it or how it functioned going in. I also learned the significance of narrative and how that can impact the way that data is interpreted.
I learned a lot about anthropological theories on human rights and ethnographies.
Learning how to read and write ethnography Approaches to human rights especially pertaining to activism
What is an ethnography? How to think about human rights passed the violations of rights.
Gained a knowledge of human rights from unique anthropological perspectives through the diverse set of readings and engaging discussion in class.

Describe how aspects of this course (lectures, discussions, labs, assignments, etc.) contributed to your learning.

Comments
The classes were always really engaging which helped me concentrate and learn more.
The discussions in class allowed me to engage with the texts further and hear the perspectives of other students.
Discussions provided us with a space to elaborate upon the content of our readings. Weekly Canvas Discussions allowed me to ask questions about the text. Office Hours sessions gave me a chance to speak to Professor Furlong about the final paper assignment.
The lectures were very thorough and it was discussion–based. It helped me understand how different people understood things
The discussions helped me understand the readings well.
Discussion and readings were very important to understanding the class!
The quiz did not contribute to my learning. The discussions were good.
The discussion posts provided a great opportunity to delve deep into one of the weekly readings and the in class discussion was very engaging and often drew into larger talk about the human rights movement and specific communities.

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.33	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	66.67%	33.33%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.22	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	11.11%	55.56%	33.33%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	3.78	4.00	0.00%	11.11%	22.22%	44.44%	22.22%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.56	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	11.11%	22.22%	66.67%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	3.67	4.00	0.00%	22.22%	11.11%	44.44%	22.22%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.22	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	11.11%	55.56%	33.33%
I felt respected in this class.	4.33	5.00	11.11%	0.00%	0.00%	22.22%	66.67%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.33	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	66.67%	33.33%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments
This is a great class for anyone who is interested in human rights and/or anthropology!
Be mindful of the difficulty and complexity of the final paper assignment – It can be a lot to handle!
The main component of the class is the final paper. There isn't any way to know how to succeed on the paper until after I fill out the course evaluation.
Professor Furlong is an excellent professor who is knowledgable and cares about the subject material. On off the greatest things he did wa point students into their own paths of inquiry both for fun, and for the final assignment.

I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	0.00%	100.00%
Anyone interested in the topic	0.00%	100.00%

Thinking about your time in the class, what aspect of the instructor's teaching contributed most to your learning?

Comments
Professor Furlong is nice and it is easy to ask him questions.
The class format was really helpful and the discussion/lecture mix allowed for very productive conversation about the readings
I appreciated that we did a lot of writing during class for our final paper assignment.
The lectures were very thorough and gave me the necessary context
His power points were very helpful.
Discussion and slides were crucial to my understanding of the class.
His depth of knowledge was really what made the course wonderful. He helped the class draw out the central ideas in each text and synthesis it.

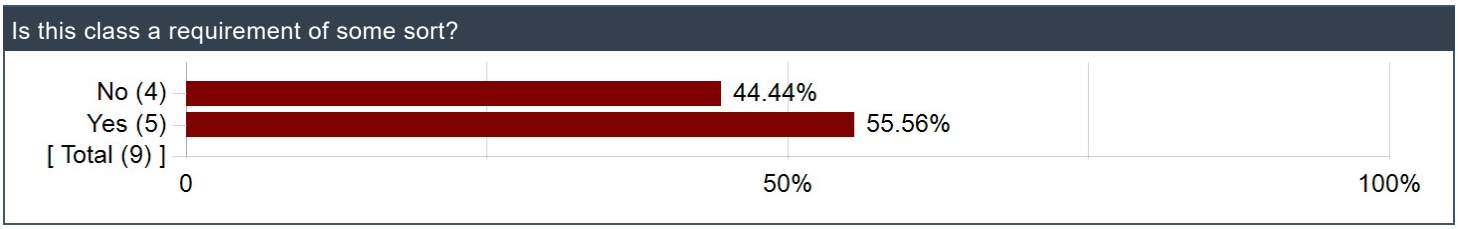
What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
If there must be a quiz, do not grade it and include another that is graded so we can become familiar with what is expected of us. Thursday's Canvas weekly posts could account for the Tues–Thurs turnaround so that Thursday readings might have shorter readings/breaks between chapters and Tuesday readings might be more interesting. There can also be a public posting of when people are doing what readings during which weeks.
I think writing prompts felt a little vague, but I think that also allowed for more individual interests to be pursued. I think it was pretty good overall though.
He could be more clear about the standards for quizzes.
Instead of having weekly writing responses add a second paper.
The weekly discussion post format made some of the weeks extremely difficult when drying to keeping up with total course load. However on the last day of class he took feedback and we gave him ideas about what can be adjusted.

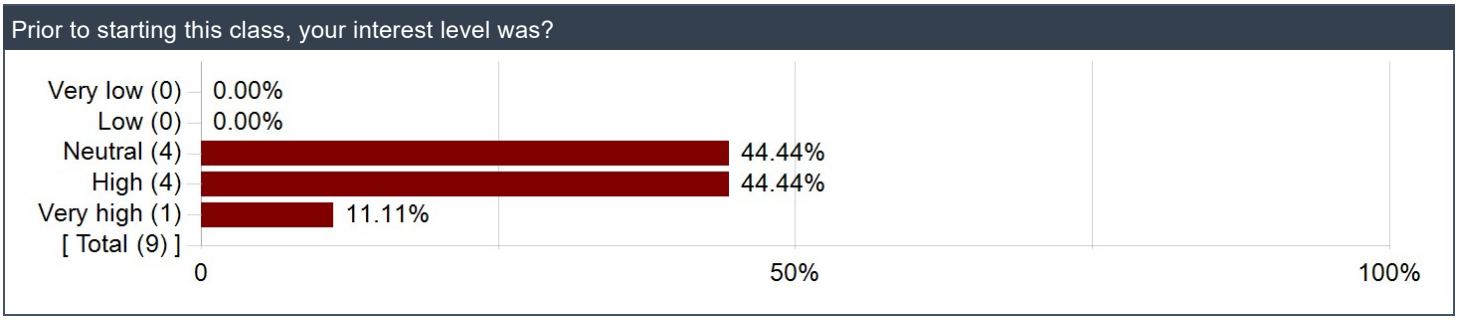
The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.56	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	11.11%	22.22%	66.67%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	4.78	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	22.22%	77.78%	0.00%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.78	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	22.22%	77.78%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	4.78	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	22.22%	77.78%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	66.67%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	66.67%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.22	5.00	0.00%	11.11%	11.11%	22.22%	55.56%	0.00%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	66.67%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.78	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	22.22%	77.78%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	66.67%	0.00%

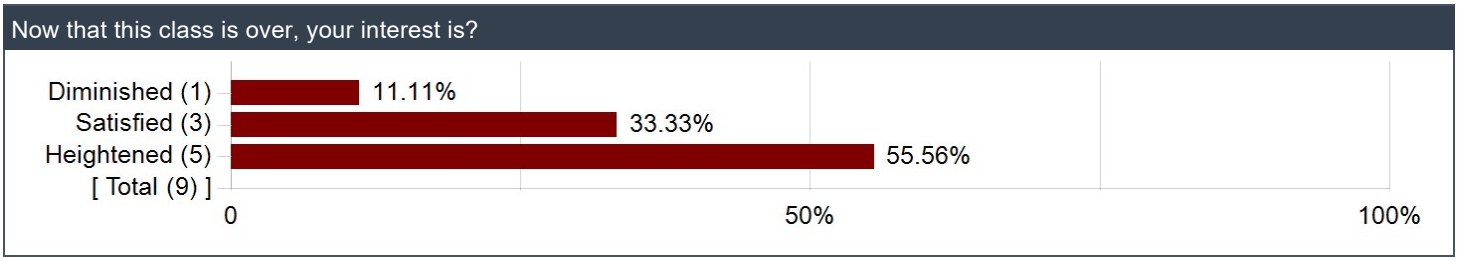
Is this class a requirement of some sort?



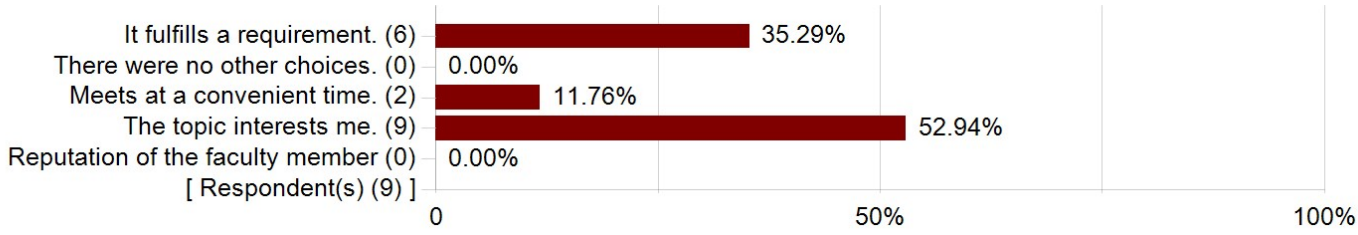
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



Now that this class is over, your interest is?

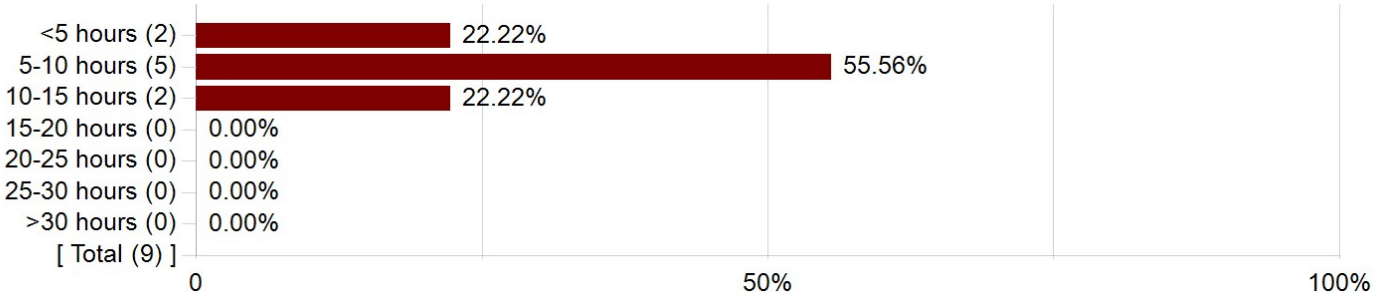


Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



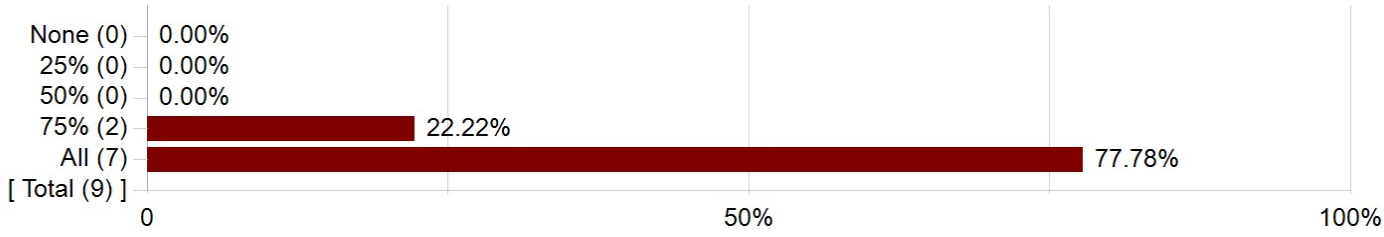
How many hours per week outside of attending required sessions did you spend on this course?

How many hours per week outside of attending required sessions did you spend on this course?



What proportion of classes did you attend?

What proportion of classes did you attend?



Please comment on the level of difficulty of the course relative to your background and experience.

Comments
If you are not familiar with ethnography or anthropology, there might be a steep learning curve—manageable but steep.
It's kind of difficult even after having taken four other human rights courses. The readings and topic were challenging and I found it hard to academically achieve in this class.
The class was a great introduction to anthropological methods for human rights.